shadowy terms. You are right. Good friends give to each other here and there, as a sign of mutual understanding, an obscure phrase which to any third party is meant to be a riddle. And we are good friends, you and I. So enough of preambles! Some few hundred questions oppress my soul, and the time for you to answer them is perchance but short. Let us see how we may come to an understanding as quickly and peaceably as possible.

The Shadow. But shadows are more shy than men. You will not reveal to any man the manner of our conversation ?

The Wanderer: The manner of our conversation ? Heaven preserve me from wire-drawn, literary dialogues ! If Plato had found less pleasure in spinning them out, his readers would have found more pleasure in Plato. A dialogue that in real life is a source of delight, when turned into writing and read, is a picture with nothing but false perspectives. Everything is too long or too short.—Yet perhaps I may reveal *ih^ points on vvkick* we have come to an understanding ?

The Shadow. With that I am content. For every one will only recognise your views once more, and no one will think of the shadow.

The Wanderer-. Perhaps you are wrong, my friend ! Hitherto they have observed in my views more of the shadow than of me.

The Shadow: More of the shadow than of the light ? Is that possible ?

The Wanderer: Be serious, dear fool 1 My very first question demands seriousness.